(d) if so, when the Government propose to resolve this situation which is causing distress to retired employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINSTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Though the recommendations of the IV Central Pay Commission are not applicable to the employees of the Port Trusts, Government had decided to liberalise the retirement benefits on lines similar to the IVth Pay Commission's recommendations. Necessary orders have been issued on 13.8.1990. The question of reckoning emoluments for pension in respect of Class III and class IV employees retiring on the revised scales of pay effective from 01.01.1988, had been under consideration and in such cases, pension orders have been issued on a provisional basis. Final orders on this issue have been issued on 06.08.1991 and on that basis, all provisional orders can now be finalised.

Appointment of Economic Administrator

7003. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to appoint an economic administrator to act as a co-ordinator between economic ministries to ensure proper implementation of the new industrial and fiscal policy measures and also to co-ordinate with IMF, World Bank officials; and

(b) is so, the precise functions of this administrator?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b): The Government have already set up a Foreign Investment Promotion Board to invite and facilitate investment in India. The Government have also appointed a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary to Prime Minister to oversee the implementation of policy reforms. There is no proposal to appoint a super economic administrator.

Widening of Pune-Belgaum Section of National Highway No.4

7004. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the vehicular traffic on the Pune-Belgaum section of the National Highway No.4 has considerably increased;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to convert this section of Highway into a four-lane Expressway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) to (c): While there has been steady increase in traffic on this section of the National Highway, there is no case at present to building a four-lane expressway facility in this corridor.

[*Translation*]

Loans to Unemployed Youth for Setting up Cottage Industries

7005. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the cottage industries for which loan is advanced by the nationalised banks in the rural areas;

(b) the rate at which loan is advanced to the rural unemployed youth for setting up the cottage industries and the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) the details of the economic programmes prepared by the Government to remove rural unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that their present data collecting system from banks does not generate data in respect of credit provided to cottage industries separately. However, advances to artisans, village and cottage industries upto Rs.25,000/- per beneficiary form part of weaker section advances within the priority sector. The term "cottage industries" has not been defined for this purpose.

(b) With the introduction of the revised interest rate structure by RBI effective from 22nd September, 1990, the sector-wise category-wise/ purpose-wise rates of interest have been dispensed with. The rates of interest on advances are linked with the size of the loan in terms of revised interest rate structure. Accordingly, the rates of interest on advances for setting up cottage industries are as under:

Size of loan/limit	*Rate for working capital*	*Interest for terms loan to SSI units.*
1. Up to inclusive of Rs.7,500/-	10.0	10.0
2. Over Rs. 7,500/- Upto Rs.15,000/-	11.5	11.5
3. Over Rs. 15,000/- Upto 25,000/-	12.0	12.5
4. Over Rs.25,000/- Upto Rs.50,000/-	14.0	13.0
5. Over Rs. 50,000/- Upto Rs.2 lakhs	15.0	14.0
6. Over Rs.2 lakhs	16.0 *	14.0
	(Minimum)	

* Since revised and raised to 18.5% (minimum) with effect from 4th July, 1991.

(c) Government of India have introduced a number of schemes such as Integrated Rural Development Programme and the Scheme for providing Self Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, which are aimed at reducing rural unemployment. a number of Special Employment Programmes formulated by State Govarnments are also being implemented by them.

[English]

Bhutan Compensatory Allowance to Defence Accounts Employees

7006. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: